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PATENT

TECH OFFICE 1600/2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 1625

Applicant: Massaro et al)

Serial No.: 09/919,195)

Conf. No. 4830)

Filed: July 31, 2001)

For: METHODS AND)

COMPOSITIONS FOR THE)

TREATMENT AND PREVENTION)

OF LUNG DISEASE)

Examiner: Seaman, Margaret)

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Signature: Bonnie Ferguson

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REPLY AND AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Reply is being filed in reply to the Office Action mailed September 15, 2003. Applicants have the following comments.

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AMENDMENTS

1-12 (Cancelled)

13) (Previously amended) A method for the treatment or prevention of alveolar destruction in a mammal comprising the step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of an RAR β antagonist having specific RAR modulating activity to said mammal, and such antagonist is not specific to at least one other RAR receptor subtype.

14) (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α .

15) (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR γ .

16) (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α or RAR γ .

17) (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said composition is administered in the form of an inhalant.

18) (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α .

19) (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR γ .

20) (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α or RAR γ .

21) (Original) A method to increase the gas-exchange surface area of a mammalian lung in a mammal in need thereof comprising the step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of an RAR β antagonist having specific RAR modulating activity to said mammal.

22) (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α .

23) (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR γ .

24) (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α or RAR γ .

25) (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said composition is administered in the form of an inhalant.

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26) (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α .

27) (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR γ .

28) (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α or RAR γ .

29-30 (Cancelled)